



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 310

January Session, 2015

Substitute House Bill No. 5814

House of Representatives, March 31, 2015

The Committee on Human Services reported through REP. ABERCROMBIE of the 83rd Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING A STUDY OF MEDICAID REIMBURSEMENT FOR HOME HEALTH CARE.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (*Effective July 1, 2015*) (a) The Commissioner of Social
2 Services shall study the benefits and costs of restructuring the
3 Medicaid reimbursement system for home health care agencies from a
4 flat-rate model to an acuity-based model that (1) reimburses agencies
5 based on the level of health care needs of a Medicaid beneficiary, and
6 (2) supports state efforts to deinstitutionalize residents who are
7 capable of receiving care in a home or community-based setting
8 through the Money Follows the Person demonstration project
9 established pursuant to section 17b-369 of the general statutes.

10 (b) As part of the study, the commissioner shall also examine the
11 impact of the existing Medicaid provider rate structure on (1)
12 providing quality medical and behavioral home and community-based
13 services, including, but not limited to, (A) licensed home health care,

14 (B) home health aide, homemaker and companion services, and (C)
15 adult day care; and (2) recruiting and retaining an adequate number of
16 providers. The study shall include a review of the implications of
17 basing Medicaid reimbursement for home and community-based
18 services on a percentage of Medicare rates for such services. For home
19 and community-based services not included under the Medicare
20 program, the study shall recommend an alternative rate system based
21 on the level of home and community-based services required and the
22 acuity of patient health needs.

23 (c) The commissioner may develop and fund the study in
24 collaboration with interested representatives from home and
25 community-based provider associations. Not later than December 1,
26 2015, the commissioner shall report the results of the study, in
27 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes,
28 to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having
29 cognizance of matters relating to human services.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2015	New section

HS *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

There is no fiscal impact associated with requiring the Department of Social Services (DSS) to study restructuring Medicaid reimbursement for home health care agencies and to report findings to the Human Services Committee by December 1, 2015.

The Out Years

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 5814

***AN ACT CONCERNING A STUDY OF MEDICAID
REIMBURSEMENT FOR HOME HEALTH CARE.***

SUMMARY:

The Office of Legislative Research does not analyze Special Acts.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Human Services Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 18 Nay 0 (03/17/2015)